

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

CHARLES THOMAS Jr.,
Petitioner,
v.
HAROLD W. CLARKE,
Respondent.

Case No. C06-5563FDB

ORDER DIRECTING
SERVICE AND RETURN,
§ 2254 PETITION

The petitioner in this action is seeking federal habeas corpus relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 and he is represented by counsel. This case has been referred to the undersigned Magistrate Judge pursuant to Title 28 U.S.C. §§ 636 (b) (1) (A) and 636 (b) (1) (B) and Local Magistrates' Rules MJR 3 and MJR 4.

(1). The clerk shall arrange for service by certified mail upon respondent, a copy of the petition, of all documents in support thereof, and of this Order. All costs of service shall be advanced by the United States. The Clerk shall assemble the necessary documents to effect service. The Clerk shall send petitioner's counsel a copy of this Order, the General Order. The clerk will also send a courtesy copy of the petition to the Washington State Attorney General's Office Criminal Justice Division.

(2) Within forty-five (45) days after such service, respondent shall file and serve an

1 answer in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases in United States District
2 Courts. As part of such answer, respondents should state whether petitioner has exhausted available
3 state remedies, whether an evidentiary hearing is necessary, and whether there is any issue of abuse
4 of delay under Rule 9. Respondent shall not file a dispositive motion in place of an answer without
5 first showing cause as to why an answer is inadequate. Respondent shall file the answer with the
6 Clerk of Court and serve a copy of the answer upon petitioner.

7 (3) The answer will be treated in accordance with Local Rule CR 7. Accordingly, upon
8 receipt of the Answer the Clerk will note the matter for consideration on the fourth Friday after the
9 answer is filed, petitioner, through counsel, may file and serve a response not later than on the
10 Monday immediately preceding the Friday appointed for consideration of the matter, and respondent
11 may file and serve a reply brief not later than on the Thursday immediately preceding the Friday
12 designated for consideration of the matter.

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15 DATED this 13th day of October, 2006.

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17 /s/ J. Kelley Arnold
18 J. Kelley Arnold
19 United States Magistrate Judge
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